

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, and 18 being the independent claims. Claims 3 and 11 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicant believes the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

for *Jeff Helms (44, 757)*

Robert Sokohl
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 36,013

Date: 5/31/05

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600